

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:  
electronically receiving information indicative of a request by a user for access to a data source;  
determining if ~~a~~the user has access to ~~a~~the data source; ~~and~~  
in response to the user being denied access to the data source, identifying one or more upgrade packages that would allow the user to access the data source; and  
determining an upgrade cost associated with each of the identified upgrade packages, based at least in part upon a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
maintaining a datastore that defines the authorizations possessed by one or more users.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein access to the data source is granted if a user possesses a specific authorization.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein determining if a user has access includes:  
accessing a datastore record to obtain a list of authorizations possessed by the user.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein determining if a user has access further includes:  
comparing the list of authorizations possessed by the user to the specific authorization required to access the data source;  
wherein the user is denied access to the data source if the list of authorizations possessed by the user does not include the specific authorization required to access the data source.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
maintaining a datastore that defines a plurality of data source packages, wherein each data source package includes one or more authorizations for data sources.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein identifying one or more upgrade packages includes:  
determining which of a plurality of data source packages includes a specific authorization required to access the data source, thus generating a list of upgrade packages.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the list of upgrade packages includes one or more discrete data source packages.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the list of upgrade packages includes one or more premium data source packages.
10. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein identifying one or more upgrade packages includes:  
determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein identifying one or more upgrade packages includes:  
sorting the list of upgrade packages based on the upgrade cost associated with each of the upgrade packages.
12. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein identifying one or more upgrade packages includes:  
sorting the list of upgrade packages based on a profit margin associated with each of the upgrade packages.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein identifying one or more upgrade packages includes:

sorting the list of upgrade packages based on an predetermined marketing preference.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages includes:

determining an undiscounted cost for an upgrade package; and  
discounting the undiscounted cost based on a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages includes:

determining an undiscounted cost for an upgrade package; and  
discounting the undiscounted cost based on a promotional discount.

16. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages includes determining which of the upgrade packages requires one or more prerequisite data source packages.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages includes:

determining an undiscounted cost for an upgrade package that requires one or more prerequisite data source packages;  
increasing the undiscounted cost based on a cost associated with the one or more prerequisite data source packages; and  
discounting the undiscounted cost based on a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium having a plurality of instructions stored thereon which, when executed by the processor, cause that processor to:

electronically receive information indicative of a request by a user for access to a data source;

determine if ~~a~~the user has access to ~~a~~the data source; ~~and~~

in response to the user being denied access to the data source, identify one or more upgrade packages that would allow the user to access the data source; and

determine an upgrade cost associated with each of the identified upgrade packages, based at least in part upon a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.

19. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising instructions for: maintaining a datastore that defines the authorizations possessed by one or more users.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein access to the data source is granted if a user possesses a specific authorization.

21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19 wherein the instructions for determining if a user has access include instructions for:

accessing a datastore record to obtain a list of authorizations possessed by the user.

22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21 wherein the instructions for determining if a user has access further include instructions for:

comparing the list of authorizations possessed by the user to the specific authorization required to access the data source;

wherein the user is denied access to the data source if the list of authorizations possessed by the user does not include the specific authorization required to access the data source.

23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising instructions for:  
maintaining a datastore that defines a plurality of data source packages, wherein  
each data source package includes one or more authorizations for data sources.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the instructions for  
identifying one or more upgrade packages include instructions for:  
determining which of a plurality of data source packages includes a specific  
authorization required to access the data source, thus generating a list of upgrade  
packages.

25. (Original) The computer program product of claim 24 wherein the list of upgrade  
packages includes one or more discrete data source packages.

26. (Original) The computer program product of claim 24 wherein the list of upgrade  
packages includes one or more premium data source packages.

27. (Original) The computer program product of claim 24 wherein the instructions for  
identifying one or more upgrade packages include instructions for:  
determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages.

28. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the instructions for  
identifying one or more upgrade packages include instructions for:  
sorting the list of upgrade packages based on the upgrade cost associated with  
each of the upgrade package.

29. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the instructions for  
identifying one or more upgrade packages include instructions for:  
sorting the list of upgrade packages based on a profit margin associated with each  
of the upgrades.

30. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the instructions for identifying one or more upgrade packages include instructions for:

sorting the list of upgrade packages based on an predetermined marketing preference.

31. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the instructions for determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages include instructions for:

determining an undiscounted cost for a upgrade package; and

discounting the undiscounted cost based on a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.

32. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the instructions for determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages include instructions for:

determining an undiscounted cost for a upgrade package; and

discounting the undiscounted cost based on a promotional discount.

33. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the instructions for determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages include instructions for:

determining which of the upgrade packages requires one or more prerequisite data source packages.

34. (Original) The computer program product of claim 33 wherein the instructions for determining an upgrade cost for each of the upgrade packages include instructions for:

determining an undiscounted cost for an upgrade package that requires one or more prerequisite data source packages;

increasing the undiscounted cost based on a cost associated with the one or more prerequisite data source packages; and

discounting the undiscounted cost based on a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:
- electronically receiving one or more packets that include information indicative of a request by a user for access to a data source;
  - determining if ~~a~~the user has access to ~~a~~the data source; ~~and~~
  - in response to the user not having access to the data source, identifying one or more upgrade packages that would allow the user to access the data source; and
  - determining an upgrade cost associated with each of the identified upgrade packages, based at least in part upon a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.
36. (Currently Amended) A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium having a plurality of instructions stored thereon which, when executed by the processor, cause that processor to:
- electronically receive information indicative of a request by a user for access to a data source;
  - determine if ~~a~~the user has access to ~~a~~the data source; ~~and~~
  - in response to the user not having access to the data source, identify one or more upgrade packages that would allow the user to access the data source; and
  - determine an upgrade cost associated with each of the identified upgrade packages, based at least in part upon a value associated with a list of authorizations possessed by the user.